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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

SERIAL NO: 09/269,607

ART UNIT: 1645

FILING DATE: 02/20/2003

EXAMINER: Navarro

INVENTOR: Ebringer

ATTY DOCKET: 78104.038

TITLE: Diagnosis of Spongiform Disease

MAIL STOP: FEE

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED APRIL 5, 2004, 37 CFR §1.111

In response to the Office Action dated April 5, 2004, the time period for response thereto being set to expire June 5, 2004, by virtue of the Petition for One-Month Extension of Time filed herewith, Applicant requests favorable reconsideration in view of the following amendment and accompanying remarks.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Applicant's Remarks begin on page 11 of this paper.